

Remarks/Arguments

Applicants thank the Examiner for his consideration of their application. Reconsideration of this application is now respectfully requested in view of the remarks below.

To summarize the current status of the claims, claims 1-16 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 6, 7, and 11-14 being the independent claims.

Comments on Allowed Claims and Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the indication that Claims 11 and 13 are allowed. Applicants note, however, that they believe that the reasons for the allowability of these claims are not limited to those cited in the Office Action at Page 10.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yona et al. (U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0152440) and rejects Claims 5, 7-10, 12, and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Yona et al. or Yona et al. in view of Eyuboglu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,541,854). These rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Each of Claims 1, 6, 7, 12, and 14 (as well as Claims 11 and 13) recites "a header compressor" or "a transmission header compressing device." In particular, Claims 1, 6, 13, and 14 recite "a header compressor receiving . . . moving-picture signal including . . . a transmission header, and compressing . . . transmission header," and Claims 7, 11, and 12 recite "a transmission header compressing device" that compresses a transmission header. Applicants

respectfully submit that neither Yona et al., cited to teach this limitation in all rejections, nor Eyuboglu et al. teaches this limitation.

In particular, the Office Action asserts that Block 260 in Fig. 2 of Yona et al. (as discussed in paragraph 0027) teaches a header compressor. As discussed in the Office Action, Block 260 (also labeled "PR") "serves to selectively repair i.e. "compress" lost packets of incoming video stream 140." Office Action at Page 2. Earlier in the discussion, the Office Action further notes, "'Header compression' is broadly interpreted as manipulating or modifying header data in the event of packet loss during transmission." Applicants disagree with this characterization of "header compression."

First, Applicants point to paragraph 0003 of their disclosure, which discusses "a method of compressing transmission protocol headers attached to video data to thereby reduce a band to be occupied, so real-time data can be transmitted over a low-speed serial line."

Second, Applicants point to ordinary dictionary definitions of "compress" as "1. To squeeze or press together. 2. To make smaller as if by squeezing." Webster's II New College Dictionary 231 (1995, Houghton-Mifflin Co.).

Finally, Applicants point to a technical dictionary definition of compression as "[t]o reduce the size of a set of data, such as a file or a communications message, so that it can be stored in less space or transmitted with less bandwidth." Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, 3rd Ed. 107 (1997).

In view of these definitions and uses, Applicants respectfully submit that the Office

Action has overly broadly characterized the term "compression." As discussed in the technical dictionary definition, for example, compression is performed prior to transmission; it is not the "manipulating or modifying [of] header data in the event of packet loss during transmission," as asserted. Compression refers to making something smaller, not to repairing it, which is what the PR of Block 260 of Yona et al. is said to do to packets in paragraph 0027.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Block 260 of Fig. 2 of Yona et al., nor any other component of Yona et al., corresponds to a header compressor/compressing device, as claimed.

Furthermore, Applicants note in Yona et al., in paragraph 0027, that neither PR 260 nor any other component discussed in Yona et al. operates specifically on packet *headers*. PR 260 deals with entire packets (noting, e.g., the last seven lines of paragraph 0027).

As a result, Applicants respectfully submit that Yona et al. fails to disclose or teach a header compressor or header compressing device, as claimed. Furthermore, Applicants have found no such teachings or disclosures in Eyuboglu et al. and, therefore, respectfully submit that Eyuboglu fails to remedy this deficiency in Yona et al. Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that, in addition to Claims 11 and 13, Claims 1-10, 12, and 14-16 are also allowable over the cited prior art for at least these reasons.

Applicants further add that, while they have not specifically addressed characterizations of all features of the claims and the cited references in the Office Action, they do not necessarily concur with those characterizations.

Applicants: SATO et al.
Appl. No. 09/963,556

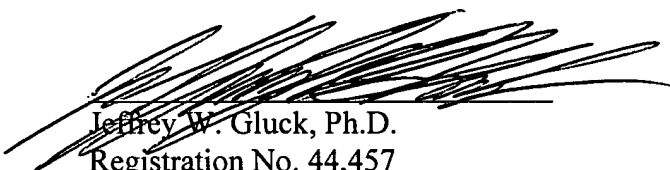
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Request for Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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